

## DOCKING SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DOCKING IN AUTOMATED TESTING SYSTEMS

### Abstract

5           A docking system (10) and method for docking a test head (16) of a device  
tester to a device handler. The docking system (10) has a handler plate (12) and a  
tester plate (14), respectively mountable to the device handler and the test head (16).  
The handler plate (12) has two conversion bars (18a,18b). Each of the two  
conversion bars (18a,18b) has two lateral protrusions (40a,40b). The tester plate (140  
10   has four slot mounts (26a,26b,26c,26d), each with an escalating slot (50) that is  
laterally oriented for respective linear engagement with the lateral protrusions  
(40a,40b) for the docking. The method involves making a quick alignment of the  
handler plate (12) to the tester plate (14) by inserting two pre-docking guide pins into  
(20a,20b) two pin sockets (22a,22b) and, thereafter, actuating one or both of two  
15   actuating cams (28a,28b) for the respective linear engagement.

FIG. 1 accompanies the abstract.